

# STRAIGHT FROM THE STATEHOUSE

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## McGREEVEY STATEMENT ON THE PASSING OF THOMAS S. SMITH

"I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Tom Smith.

Tom Smith was an exceptional public servant who served his State and his community with great distinction.

His passing is a loss for all of New Jersey. Assemblyman Smith will be missed as a lawmaker, as a leading member of the law enforcement community, as a husband, as a father and as a friend.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Dorothy, the Honorable Thomas Smith, Jr., and the entire Smith family during this very difficult time.

## McGREEVEY ACTS TO PROTECT PINELANDS

Governor McGreevey announced seven new appointees to the Pinelands Commission.

The appointees to the Pinelands Commission include: the new chairman, former Governor Jim Florio; Edward Lloyd, Betty Wilson; Mayor Robert Hagaman; Candace McKee Ashmun; Reverend Dr. Guy Campbell, and Stephen Lee.

"Each of these individuals will play a crucial role in determining the future of the New Jersey Pinelands," said McGreevey.

"They share my commitment to balance appropriate growth with the protection of the Pinelands' critical plant and animal



Gov. McGreevey signs an Executive Order at the Pinelands Announcement.

habitats."

The Governor also signed an Executive Order that places a hold on water allocation permits and water use registrations in three Pinelands communities.

"The measures we have taken today are essential if we are to balance appropriate growth with the protection of the Pinelands' critical plant and animal habitats."

## McGREEVEY ADDRESSES STATE PENSION INVESTMENTS

Governor McGreevey appointed a Pension Review Committee to examine the poor performance of the State's \$60 billion pension investment portfolio.

Former Governors Byrne and Kean, Alan Blinder and Gordon Rentschler will

serve on a Pension Review Committee to review the State's pension investment performance and offering their recommendations to address the serious performance issues confronting the State's pension system.

The Governor expects to

receive their report within the next several weeks.

"I want to ensure that each step we take is prudent and responsible, and I appreciate the willingness of Governors Byrne and Kean and Professor Blinder to assist us."

## McGREEVEY UNVEILS HOUSING INITIATIVE

Governor McGreevey unveiled plans for a new housing initiative designed to help 20,000 working families purchase homes over the next four years.

"We are committed to providing the mortar and bricks to make a difference," McGreevey said.

McGreevey announced four new initiatives to help New Jersey meet its housing goal without adding any extra burdens on taxpayers. The initiatives include a new Housing Opportunity Fund to create a single multi-purpose resource for the production and preservation of housing.

Other initiatives include: a new Housing Works program to provide employer-assisted housing, a commitment to amend the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit program and a pledge to leverage public housing investments by working with municipalities and counties.

## MCGREEVEY & PFIZER LAUNCH CAREER ACADEMY

Governor McGreevey, Pfizer Inc Chairman and



McGreevey Announces Career Academy with Pfizer in Morristown.

CEO Hank McKinnell and Education Commissioner William Librera, launched the Pfizer Medical Science Academy at Morristown High School.

"This career academy is proof that innovation and dedicated partners like Pfizer can produce an educational opportunity for students—one that combines academic excellence with career preparation," said McGreevey.

The Pfizer Medical Science Academy is a model partnership between the State of New Jersey, Pfizer, the Pfizer Foundation and the Morris School District.

The Pfizer Foundation has committed \$500,000 and professional staff time to develop the career academy, which will be fully operational by the second semester of the 2002-2003 school year.

## MCGREEVEY APPOINTS SCHOOLS CORP BOARD

Governor McGreevey has appointed Barbara Bell Coleman and Angel Magill to serve on the Board of Directors of the Schools Corporation and has chosen Anthony Coscia to serve as Chair of the Board.

The Board held its first

meeting September 27<sup>th</sup>. In July, the Governor signed an Executive Order establishing the Schools Corporation.

"The purpose of the Schools Corporation is to ensure that New Jersey's public schools are renovated in a streamlined, cooperative and efficient manner and to rid the

School Construction Program of delays caused by needless bureaucracy and mismanagement," said McGreevey.

"I am confident that these three individuals will work diligently to achieve this goal."

## MCGREEVEY, CHRISTOPHER REEVE FIGHT SPINAL CORD INJURY & DISEASE

Governor McGreevey 1st Lady Dina Matos McGreevey joined Christopher and Dana Reeve in the fight against spinal cord injuries, paralysis and associated diseases.

Governor McGreevey helped raised critical research dollars for the

Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation (CRPF).

"Christopher Reeve has put a human face on spinal cord injury," said McGreevey.

The Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation

works to improve the quality of life for people living with disabilities.

The foundation has given \$26 million in research grants to the world's leading neuroscientists.